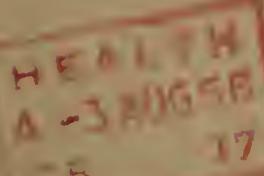


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URBAN DISTRICT OF MARKET HARBOUROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



for the Year 1955.

R.W. Kind, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Area</u> (In acres)	4,771
Total number of occupied houses in district	3,496
Total number of Council houses occupied in district	766
<u>Rateable Value</u> 1st April, 1955	£71,892
<u>Sum represented by a penny rate</u>	£ 270

POPULATION:

1955 Registrar General's estimate 10,440

TABLE showing the Registrar General's estimate of the changes in population during the past ten years :-

1946	9,897	1951	10,310
1947	10,470	1952	10,240
1948	10,340	1953	10,340
1949	10,500	1954	10,420
1950	10,420	1955	10,440

BIRTHS:

		<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>
Live Births:	Legitimate	Male 76	65
		Female 71	63
		Total 147	128
	Illegitimate	Male Nil	1
		Female 3	3
		Total 3	4
	Total Live Births:	Male 76	66
		Female 74	66
		Total 150	132
Stillbirths:	Legitimate	Male 3	3
		Female 1	2
		Total 4	5
	Illegitimate	Male Nil	Nil
		Female Nil	Nil
		Total Nil	Nil
	Total Stillbirths:	Male 3	3
		Female 1	2
		Total 4	5

Birthrate per 1,000 estimated population:

Market Harborough	14.3	12.6
England and Wales	15.0	15.2

TABLE showing the changes in the total live births and in the birth rates during the past ten years:-

Year	Total Live Births	Birth Rates per 1,000 population)		
		Market Harborough	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1946	190	19.2	20.6	19.1
1947	182	17.3	21.2	20.5
1948	177	17.1	18.84	17.9
1949	190	18.1	17.35	16.7
1950	174	16.7	16.17	15.8
1951	157	15.3	16.02	15.5
1952	152	15.3	15.67	15.3
1953	148	14.3	15.43	15.5
1954	132	12.6	14.51	15.2
1955	150	14.3	14.78	15.0

DEATHS:

Total Number of Deaths:	1955		1954	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
			71	66
			66	59
		Total	137	125

Date Rate per 1,000 estimated population

Market Harborough	13.1	11.9
England and Wales	11.7	11.3

TABLE showing changes in the total number of deaths and in the death rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Deaths	Death Rates (per 1,000 population)		
		Market Harborough	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1946	101	10.2	10.7	11.5
1947	110	10.5	11.3	12.0
1948	109	10.4	9.77	10.8
1949	128	12.2	10.68	11.7
1950	109	10.4	10.28	11.6
1951	127	12.3	10.74	12.5
1952	110	10.7	10.06	11.3
1953	130	12.5	10.05	11.4
1954	125	11.9	10.29	11.3
1955	137	13.1	10.59	11.7

Deaths from puerperal causes:

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year 1955.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:

		1955	1954
<u>No. of deaths:</u>	Legitimate		
	Male	1	1
	Female	1	1
	Total	2	2
	Illegitimate		
	Male	Nil	2
	Female	Nil	Nil
	Total	Nil	2
	Total Infant deaths	2	4

Infant mortality per 1,000 live births:

Market Harborough	13.3	30.3
England and Wales	24.9	25.5

TABLE showing deaths of infants under one year and infant mortality rates during the past ten years :

Year	Total Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rates per 1,000 live births		
		Market Harborough	Leicestershire	England and Wales
1945	10	51.0	36	46
1946	6	47.3	36	43
1947	4	21.9	43	41
1948	5	28.2	32.2	34
1949	6	31.6	27.1	32
1950	2	11.5	27.0	29.8
1951	2	12.7	25.1	29.6
1952	3	19.0	26.5	27.6
1953	1	6.7	28.0	26.8
1954	4	30.3	28.1	25.5
1955	2	13.3	22.5	24.9

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

There were no deaths of infants under four weeks of age.

Causes of Death:

Registrar General's Classification:		1955			1954			
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	- - -	-	1	1	3	2	5	
2. Tuberculosis, other	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
3. Syphilitic disease	- - -	-	-	-	2	-	2	
4. Diphtheria.	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5. Whooping cough.	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
6. Meningococcal infections.	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
7. Acute poliomyelitis.	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
8. Measles.	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
9. Other infective & parasitic diseases.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	- -	3	-	3	3	1	4	
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	-	3	-	3	1	-	1	
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.	- -	-	2	2	-	4	4	
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	- -	-	1	1	-	3	3	
14. Malignant neoplasms, lymphatic & other	-	5	8	13	6	-	6	
15. Leukemia, aleukaemia.	- - -	-	-	-	-	1	1	
16. Diabetes.	- - -	1	1	2	-	-	-	
17. Vascular lesions of the nervous system.	- - - - -	4	13	17	6	11	17	
18. Coronary disease, angina.	- -	13	3	16	10	7	17	
19. Hypertension with heart disease.	-	3	-	3	-	-	-	
20. Other heart disease.	- - -	9	9	18	9	12	21	
21. Other circulatory disease.	- -	9	3	12	7	2	9	
22. Influenza	- - -	3	3	6	1	-	1	
23. Pneumonia.	- - -	3	2	5	1	-	1	
24. Bronchitis.	- - -	1	2	3	3	2	5	
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system.	- - - - -	-	1	1	3	2	5	
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.	-	1	2	3	-	-	-	
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
28. Nephritis and nephrosis.	- -	-	4	4	-	-	-	
29. Hyperphasia of the prostate.	-	4	-	4	-	-	-	
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
31. Congenital malformations.	- -	2	-	2	-	1	1	
32. Other defined & ill-defined diseases.	-	6	8	14	8	10	18	
33. Motor vehicle accidents.	- -	-	-	-	-	-	-	
34. All other accidents.	- - -	1	1	2	2	1	3	
35. Suicide.	- - -	-	1	1	1	-	1	
36. Homicide and operations of war.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total deaths, all causes.		-	71	66	137	66	59	125

CONTROL OVER AND PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

GENERAL.

Infectious disease presented no problem during the year under review.

IMMUNISATION.

Facilities for immunisation against diphtheria continue to be provided free of charge under the National Health Service Act. 116 children under the age of five years received their primary immunisation whilst a further 88 children of school age received injections to maintain their immunity.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year. A further person was deleted from the register as having left the district and three as having been cured.

Seven new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified. One additional case came to reside in the District.

Cases remaining on the register at the close of the year were as follows :-

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Pulmonary	27	15	42
Non-pulmonary	5	5	10
Totals	32	20	52

B.C.G. vaccination was offered to children of school leaving age for the first time in 1955. 21 boys and 21 girls accepted it.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases were notified :-

Measles	17
Scarlet fever	8
Dysentery	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT. 1948 and
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

No action was taken under these Acts during the year.

TABLE showing the monthly distribution of certain infectious diseases:

Disease		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April		May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
					1954	Measles	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
	Whooping Cough	—	16	25	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	46
	Scarlet Fever	—	2	9	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	27	

Disease		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April		May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
					1955	Measles	—	—	—	1	4	7	3	2	—
	Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	NIL
	Scarlet Fever	1	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

For the preparation and presentation of the following data, I am greatly indebted to Mr. B. G. Elliott, M.R.San.I., Senior Sanitary Inspector, whose work during the year under review is herein summarized.

Water.

The public piped water supply of the district has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity throughout the year. The results of samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological analysis were as follows :-

Raw Water		Treated Water going into Supply	
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
NIL	NIL	5	NIL

The new central filtration and treatment works are completed, three new wells have been bored and tests of purity are being carried out. It is expected that the new supply will go into service in early 1956.

The present supply to dwelling-houses in the district is as follows :-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Population</u>
Number supplied from wells	14	42
Number supplied from public water mains:		
(a) Direct to the houses	3,347	10,000
(b) By means of standpipes	155	398

Samples were taken from three private wells and on bacteriological examination were found to be satisfactory. One private well was abolished and a piped supply substituted.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Experimental chemical treatment of sewage has been carried on during the year. It has been partly successful but the whole question of the most suitable disposal process will have to be considered in the coming year.

Closet Accommodation.

The total number of water closets connected to the sewerage system is now 5,090. The properties outside the sewered areas consist of five with private drainage systems and fourteen provided with pails or chemical closets.

Public Cleansing.

There are no ash pits in the district, houses and other premises being provided with dustbins for the storage of domestic refuse. The removal of refuse is undertaken weekly as far as possible, and a large capacity S.D. freighter motor vehicle (fore and aft tipper type) is used for the purpose. The weekly collection of trade refuse from shops and other business premises is also undertaken upon application and at charges in accordance with the Council's Scale. At present 114 premises are included in this arrangement.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Complaints received and investigated	321
Defects or nuisances dealt with	1,384

Inspections made:-

	Number of Inspections
Animal Keeping	36
Bakehouses	5
Dairies	27
Drainage Works	55
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	1,825
Food Premises	260
Offensive Trades	8
Refuse Collection and Disposal	175
Rodent Control	20
Schools	10
Shops	41
Slaughter-Houses & Meat Inspection	371
Smoke Observations	43
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	54
Verminous and Dirty Premises	118
Water Supplies	19
Workshops, outworkers, etc.	84
Other Inspections	108
 TOTAL	 3,259

Notices.

PRELIMINARY	HOUSING	PUBLIC HEALTH
Outstanding on 1st January	38	72
Issued during year	153	328
Complied with during year	158	343
Statutory action necessary	-	-
Outstanding 31st December	33	57

STATUTORY	HOUSING	PUBLIC HEALTH
Outstanding on 1st January	34	-
Issued during year	-	-
Complied with during year	23	-
Outstanding 31st December	11	-

Shops Act, 1950.

Five defects of sanitary accommodation and one of washing facilities were found and remedied.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Licences renewed	2
Visits to premises	3
Contraventions rectified	2

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Number of premises registered for upholstering, etc.	1
--	---

No contraventions were discovered.

Special Classes of Premises and Occupations subject to Control.

Written Consent to establishment of trade of Rag and Bone Dealer renewed	1
Written Consent to establishment of trade of Fat Extractor, Fat Melter and Glue Maker in operation	1

These premises were inspected on eight occasions. There were no matters necessitating attention.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Rodent Officer, as other duties permitted, has proceeded with the routine inspection of the District.

44 manholes of the sewerage system were testbaited and no takes reported.

Visits made	3,000
Infestations dealt with	150
(1) At Council properties	10
(2) At private dwellings (Free of charge)	120
(3) At business premises (occupiers charged)	20
(4) At agricultural premises (occupiers charged)	NIL

Disinfestation.

No infestations were discovered during 1955.

Swimming Baths.

The indoor swimming pool is owned by the Council. The building is well equipped and the filtration and chlorination plant has operated efficiently through the bathing season. Five inspections were made during the year.

Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings.

Number of camping sites for which licences have been issued	NIL
Number of licences issued for moveable dwellings under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936	2

Schools.

Ten visits were made to schools. In two cases drains were unstopped and in one case refuse removed. Action was taken in one further case to secure the provision of a water closet.

Public Mortuary.

Duties in connection with cleansing and maintenance are regularly performed by the Disinfecting Officer.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

No. on Register.

Distributors of Milk	3
Dairies (not being Dairy Farms)	3

The following Licences have been issued :-

(1) Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:

(a) Dealers Licences: Pasteurised	3
Sterilised	1
(b) Supplementary Licences	0

(2) Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:

(a) Dealers Licences: Tuberculin Tested	4
(b) Supplementary Licences	0

Bacteriological Milk Sampling.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Number of samples for bacteriological examination</u>	<u>Number satisfactory</u>	<u>Number unsatisfactory</u>
"Tuberculin Tested"	5	5	0
"Pasteurised"	12	10	2
Undesignated	3	3	0
	—	—	—
	20	18	2
	—	—	—

Biological Milk Sampling.

The following samples were collected :-

<u>Number of samples taken</u>	<u>Number satisfactory</u>	<u>Number showing evidence of Tubercle Bacilli</u>	<u>Brucella Abortus</u>
7	7	0	0

Ice Cream.

<u>Trade</u>	<u>Number of Premises Registered</u>
Manufacture and retail	0
Manufacture only	0
Retail only	32

Twenty inspections of premises and vehicles used for the sale of ice cream were made during the year. Most of the ice cream is now sold ready packed and no samples were taken.

Meat and Other Foods.

There is in the District one slaughterhouse owned by the Local Authority and leased to a firm of wholesale meat salesmen who are under an obligation to provide the facilities of a public slaughterhouse.

In this slaughterhouse 8,393 animals were killed during 1955 and all carcasses were examined. 371 visits were made for this purpose.

The results of examination are analysed in the following table :-

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	1,084	10	34	5,292	1,973	0
Number inspected	1,084	10	34	5,292	1,973	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	6	1	6	83	5	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	242	4	3	143	27	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis.	22.88	50.00	26.47	4.27	1.62	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	62	2	-	-	24	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	5.81	20.00	-	-	1.27	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat condemned: 8 tons 6 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lbs.

Meat Stalls.

No. of Inspections 11

Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc.

No. of Inspections 14

Places where food (other than meat) is kept
or prepared for sale.

No. of Inspections 240

Foodstuffs (other than meat) condemned 8,223½ lbs.

Defects remedied at food premises 48

Premises registered for manufacture of
preserved foods 11

HOUSING.

New Houses.

Houses completed during the year :-

(a) By Local Authority	38
(b) By Private enterprise	32

Houses under construction at the close of the year :-

(a) By Local Authority	NIL
(b) By Private enterprise	71

TOTAL No. of Post War Houses completed by :-

(a) Local Authority	447
(b) Private Enterprise	134

Total Number of applicants for Council houses at
end of year

429

Number of applications received during the year

208

Number of Council Houses in the district prior to 1939

319

HOUSING ACT, 1949

(a) Number of applications for reconditioning grants.....	52
(b) Number of applications approved.....	49
(c) Number of applications refused	3

HOUSING ACT, 1936: PARTS II and III

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954: SECTION I

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

Part 1. The total problem

- i) Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under section 11 or section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936. 49
- ii) Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i). 10

Part 2. Orders already made etc.

- iii) Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by local authority -
- iv) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative. -

Part 3. Action in the first five years.

- v) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years. -
- vi) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a clearance order or a compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister. -
- vii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation. -
- viii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years. -
- ix) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. 31

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	402
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	976
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under (sub-head) (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932.	44
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	83
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	38

CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

No clearance areas were defined.

HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS.

Houses demolished or closed in the period.

		Number of Houses	Persons dis.
	<u>Housing Act, 1936.</u>		
(a)	Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	7	17
(b)	Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	-	-
(c)	Parts of building closed (Section 12)	1	6
	<u>Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.</u>		
	Closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sections 10(1) and 11(2).	5	13
	<u>Informal action.</u>		
	Closed or converted for other purposes.	6	-

REPAIRS in the period.

Number of houses

Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.

117

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.

(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	7
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	11
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	53
(b) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	7
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	54

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	72	42	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	47	32	2	-
(3) Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises).	7	10	-	-
Total	126	84	2	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences	4	4	-	-	-
Total	6	6	-	2	-

3. OUTWORK.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers on List
Wearing apparel, making etc.	33

